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(42)-2006-Beautiful twisted columns, ancient cloister of St. Paul's, Rome Italy.

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A mile and a half outside the southern limits of Rome, you find the beautiful great church of "St. Paul's without the walls," — a lovely and lonely piece of architectural magnificence. Tradition says St. Paul was buried here.

Now you are standing in one of the cloisters or colonnade-walks of the monastery connected with the church, looking out into the sunny garden which they enclose on all sides. The church itself was burned and rebuilt during the last century, but these cloisters stand nearly as they were seven hundred years ago. In those days, before the invention of printing, the chief source of books was at the hands of clerical copyists, who patiently reproduced with pen and brush page after page of the Latin and Greek classics, the Gospels and the treatises of the early Christian Fathers. Some of the beautiful illuminated manuscripts that are treasured now in the great libraries and museums were produced by monks who took their sober recreation pacing through these long aisles, admiring the ingenious delicacy of these sculptured marble columns, and looking out into that sunny central court just as you look now.

When they were constructing ecclesiastical buildings like this during the middle ages, they used enormous numbers of beautiful columns, mouldings and panels, taken from the ruins of still earlier days, the times of Rome's classic splendor. Workmen studied the older sculptures and borrowed ideas from them, with modifications to suit their own fancy. Mediæval fancy fairly ran riot right here in these eccentric shapes — they were somebody's ideal. The plainly grooved, upright shafts are more in the style of classic architecture.

See *Rome through the Stereoscope*, with special "keyed" maps, locating the successive standpoints and identifying the landmarks; published and copyrighted by Underwood & Underwood.

Beautiful Twisted Columns in Cloisters of St. Paul's, Rome.

Belles colonnes tordues dans les cloîtres de St. Paul, Rome.

Wunderschöne gewundene Säulen in den Gängen bei der St. Paulskirche zu Rom.

Hermosas columnas torneadas en el monasterio de San Pablo, Roma.

Prydliga pelaren i St. Pauls kyrkogångar, Rom.

Красивыя витыя колонны въ Монастырѣ Святаго Павла. Римъ.